

Minutes
Approved October 14

Faculty Senate Meeting

September 23, 2015

Sininger Hall 100 - New Mexico Highlands University, 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: 3:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Aguilar, Teresita (VPAA); Burns, Jim (School of Education); Christensen, Todd (Visual & Performing Arts); Coggins, Kip (School of Social Work); Derkas, Erika (Social & Behavioral Sciences); Izaguirre, Ariadna (Student Senate – Undergraduate); Jenkins, Kathy (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy); Loewen, Kerry (School of Business, Media & Technology); Maestas, Henrietta (Staff Senate); Main, Douglas (School of Education/Counseling & Guidance); Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management); Minner, Sam (President); Rodriquez, Elaine proxy for Abbas Manafy (History/Political Science/Language & Culture); Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry); Thompson, Wally (School of Education, Curriculum & Instruction); Williams, Emily (School of Education); Zebrowski, Cheryl (Library)

Excused: Williams, Susan (Nursing);

Absent: Ortiz, Luis (School of Business);

Also Present

- 3. Approval of Agenda:** - MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the agenda with the caveat that we limit discussions to 10-15 minutes. Motion approved unanimously.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** – MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Minutes from September 9th. Motion approved unanimously.
- 5. Communication from the Administration**
 - a. Dr. Aguilar reported that at the Governor’s Higher Ed Summit and subsequent visit to NMHU, Governor Martinez congratulated NMHU for moving to 120 credits required for graduation with 90% of our programs meeting that criteria.
 - i. ARMAS received a “Bright Spots in Hispanic Education” award from the White House Initiative.
 - ii. HLC visit next Monday and Tuesday.
 - iii. Faculty searches – waiting for PA1s and will be meeting with deans, Max Baca, and Donna Castro to discuss ways to streamline the hiring process. Will be going forward with the Dean of Social Work search.
 - b. President Minner reported that the Trolley Building renovation is back on track. A web cam will be installed so the public can watch the progress.
 - i. Searches are in progress for the Athletic director and VP for Advancement.
 - ii. Enrollment up 1% after census day.
 - iii. New MFA program is waiting for approval from the state.

- iv. Would like to involve faculty and staff in looking at the *Chronicle of Higher Education* best places to work criteria, and improve our work environment.
- v. Has a meeting on October 9th with the association & senate executive committees to discuss shared governance issues.
- vi. Has hosted several student dinners at his residence. Students had many positive things to say about Highlands, as well as a few suggestions for improvement.
- vii. The Faculty Emeriti group wants to be more involved in mentoring new faculty.
- viii. The reading group is already full.
- ix. Public art committee list submitted to NM Arts for their approval.
- x. HU Reads campaign will be rolling out shortly.

6. Communication from the Chair

- a. The Faculty Senate and Association are scheduled to meet with the HLC next Monday at 11:00 in SUB 322. Please attend if possible.
- b. Need faculty member for the search committee for the VP of Advancement. Dr. Derkas volunteered.
- c. Credentials for faculty are a HLC concern.

7. Communication from Academic Affairs

- a. Updating program proposal guidelines.
- b. We may be able to have 2 Ballen awards this year.
- c. Began working on a master syllabus.
- d. Departments have been sending corrections to registrar for the 2015-17 catalog.

8. Communication from the Student Senate

- a. The organization must find a sponsoring senator to help write a bill.
- b. Looking at paying for some buses to away games for all sports.

9. Communication from the Staff Senate

- a. Open Staff Forum on October 7th 1:30-3:00 with President Minner.

10. Old Business

- a. ACTION ITEM: Honorary degrees at NMHU based on ENMU's policy.
 - i. Add a line that the President will consider the criteria in the document when submitting nominations.
 - ii. Add Doctorate degree to document title.
 - iii. Change mankind to humankind.
 - iv. Remove the word "solely" from item 4D1.
 - v. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the document with corrections and forward to the General Faculty. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. ACTION ITEM: Faculty Handbook Revisions, Sections IV and V
 - i. IV.B3e – term limits of senate. Allows departments the flexibility to limit the terms. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve this addition. Motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. IV.D2b1 - Election of Chair language. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to table this point so departments can discuss. Motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. IV.D2b1, 2, 3 - Election of the chair, Vice chair, chair elect and Secretary/Treasurer MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept that the elections for these positions be moved to the second meeting in February. Motion passed unanimously.

- iv. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to Cross out chair-elect in IV.D2b2 as it is confusing. Motion passed unanimously.
- v. IV.D2b4 - MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to add the section regarding course release. Motion passed unanimously.
- vi. IV.D2b5 MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the language regarding chair term limits. Motion passed with 1 abstention.
- vii. IV.D2e Budget. A Consensus vote was taken and passed that we should go forward with this plan and discuss with the administration.
- viii. V.A1 MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the proposed changes to term limits for committees. Motion passed unanimously.
- ix. V.A2 MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the proposed addition requiring the election of a chair and secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
- x. V.A2 MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the proposed changes to chair term limits and duties of secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
- xi. V. B1 MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the proposed changes allowing 2-3 at-large members on the Executive Committee. Motion passed with 1 abstention.
- xii. V.B5g MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the added language regarding a policy manual. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Academic Calendar
- d. Evaluation of Administrators (tabled until brought forward)

11. New Business:

- a. ACTION ITEM: Faculty Affairs to work with HR to review Faculty Search Process, as per Handbook VI.D.2 (page 6-5).
 - i. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to Charge Faculty Affairs to work with HR to review the Faculty Search Process. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Productivity Survey
- c. Policy Manual
- d. New Issues to Work on for 2015-2016
 - i. Survey Monkey poll of faculty to discover issues
 - ii. Role of online education at NMHU
 - iii. FS Project for 2015-2016
 - iv. Professional development week
 - v. Ad-hoc committee dedicated to looking at issues at the Centers
 - vi. Professor/Teacher/Researcher/Artist of the Year Award
 - vii. Credit load allocation for types of teaching/hours/workload (may be Association issue)
 - viii. Exit interviews for departing faculty
 - ix. Discussion of sustainability versus growth

12. Committee Reports and Announcements

13. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.